

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CAN:GJMONROE:JKB

APPROVED BY EUR/CAN - JHROUSE

L/EB - SBENSON

EB/BP - TSCHLENKER

JUSTICE - MR. CIRA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139007

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, CA, US

SUBJECT: URANIUM ANTITRUST CASE

REF: STATE 118119

1. DEPARTMENT INFORMED JUNE 1, BY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT THAT GULF INTENDS TO ENTER A NOLO CONTENDERE PLEA TOMORROW JUNE 2, IN RESPONSE TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S MISDEMEANOR INFORMATION ENTERED MAY 9. THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO OPPOSE GULF'S PLEA AND EXPECTS THAT THE COURT WILL SENTENCE GULF THE SAME AFTERNOON. THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE IS A \$50,000 FINE.

2. SINCE GULF'S DECISION TO ENTER A NOLO PLEA MEANS THE CASE WILL NOT BE TRIED, THE PROCEEDINGS WILL HAVE NO PRECEDENTIAL VALUE FOR PRIVATE CIVIL SUITS. IN VIEW OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT PLAN TO AMEND ITS INFORMATION AS REQUESTED BY A LETTER FROM
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CANADIAN JUSTICE MINISTER BASFORD (COPY BEING HAND CARRIED BY JOHN ROUSE TO TORONTO). A LETTER FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL BELL SO INFORMING BASFORD WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE CANADIAN EMBASSY HERE LATER TODAY. THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WILL PURSUE A CIVIL ACTION REMAINS UNDER REVIEW.

3. EMBASSY MAY AT ITS DISCRETION INFORM GOC OF THE ABOVE,
BUT SHOULD AVOID ANY SPECULATION AS TO POSSIBILITY OF
EVENTUAL CIVIL ACTION. VANCE

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